

The following services and programs are governed under the authority of the Pennsylvania Department

Child Welfare

- Child Welfare Children and Youth Service Agencies are funded with federal and state dollars to pr
- Parents and children have the right to legal representation in the juvenile dependency system. The

Child Welfare Resources

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- Child Abuse Reports of ~~Child Abuse Hotline~~ be filed at 1-800-932-0313 or by fax to 1-717-783-6354.
- Runaways National Runaway Switchboard can be reached at 1-800-RUNAWAY (786-2929) or info@switchboard.org
- Legal Aid of Southeastern PA (877 429 5994)
- Delaware County
410 Welsh Street
Chester, PA 19013
610-874-8421
Fax: 610-490-6915
- Montgomery County
- Chester County
- Delaware County Bar Association
- Front & Lemon St.
Media, PA 19063
Phone: 610.566.6625
Fax: 610.566.7952
Email: info@delco.pa.barristersclub.com
- Montgomery County Bar Association
- 100 W Airy St
Norristown, PA 19401-4724
(610) 279-9660
- Chester County Bar Association
- Second Floor

15 W. Gay Street, West Chester, PA 19380
(610) 692-1889

- Teen Crisis Services 610-352 TEEN (3:30-8:00)
- Child Guidance Resource Centers 484 454 8700
- Delaware County Office of Behavioral Health 610 713 2365
www.behavioralhealth.us
- Statewide Offices: Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare
- Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services FAX: 1-717-787-5394, 1-717-787-6443.
- Office of Child Development 717-346-9320.

Child Support

- Child support is money a parent pays to help provide food, clothing and other things for his or her child.
- The Department of Public Welfare, Bureau of Child Support Enforcement (BCSE), is responsible for child support.
- The child support process in Pennsylvania is done through the county Domestic Relations Section.
- The DRSs handle child support matters. DRSs help parents apply for child support services, establish paternity, and enforce support orders.
- Feel free to ask questions of the DRS worker. You should keep a written record of contacts with the DRS worker.

Applying for Child Support

<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/about/oim/003670315.htm> □

- When applying for child support, a complaint for child support must be filed. If the mother of the child is not known, the father must file a complaint.
- The DRS will schedule a support conference and send notices with the date and time to the parent or individual with custody of the child.
- Child support owed to the family usually begins from the date the complaint is filed. Some counties may have different rules.
- Caretaker/relative must cooperate in paternity support actions and court processes. Only the non-custodial parent can be held responsible for child support.
- You may ask for an accounting of the child support by contacting the Director of the Bureau of Child Support Enforcement.
- Over collection may occur www.dpw.state.pa.us/about/oim/003670315.htm when the petitioner believes that the state has collected more child support than is owed.
- The parent or individual with custody of the child is called the custodial parent or the caretaker and is responsible for the child's support.
- **Addressing Safety Risks**
- Pursuing support may present safety risks for some individuals or families. The support process may involve court proceedings and enforcement actions.
- If domestic violence is reported, the DRS or court can place a Family Violence Indicator on the custodial parent's record.
- There is an active Protection From Abuse (PFA) order, either temporary or permanent, against the custodial parent.
- There is reason to believe that the release of information on the whereabouts of the individual or child could result in harm to the individual or child.
- The DRS or court may provide safeguards if domestic violence is reported. Each county has different rules.
- Individuals applying for or receiving cash assistance may be excused from the requirement to pursue child support.

- Note: Many government agencies and groups that work in the prevention of domestic violence use
- Victims or potential victims of domestic violence may include: children, custodial parents, noncustodial
- **Child Support calculation**
- The Domestic Relations Offices uses a formula, established by state law, that factors in your financial
- Delaware County at 610-891-4314 or Curran Building, 2nd & Orange Streets, Media PA 19063.
- The Domestic Relations Office of Montgomery County
- The Domestic Relations Office of Chester County
- **Child Care Subsidies**
- The Delaware County Child Care Information Services (CCIS) provides child care subsidies to eligible
- Apply Online at <https://www.humanservices.state.pa.us/COMPASS/PGM/ASP/SC001.asp>
- Delaware County Department of Human Services
Child Care Information Services
Subsidized Day Care 1-800-831-3117;
- CCIS of Chester County 610 344 6904, 1 800 870 2323;
CCIS of Montgomery County Office of Child Day
Care Services, 610 278 3707.

Adoption

State information

- The Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare works to provide a loving, nurturing permanent home
- <http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/ServicesPrograms/ChildWelfare/003676622.htm>
- **The Pennsylvania Adoption Exchange (PAE)** maintains an ever-changing database of children
- **Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network (SWAN)** and private agencies, judges and the legal
- Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network (SWAN)
PO Box 2675
Harrisburg, Pa. 17105-2675
800-585-SWAN (Toll-Free)

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Other Resources

- The Collaboration to AdoptUSKids <http://www.adoptuskids.org/>
- National Resource Center for Special Needs Adoption <http://www.specialneedsadoption.org/>
- North American Council on Adoptable Children <http://www.nacac.org/>
- Adoption.com <http://www.adoption.com/>
- DPW Supplemental Foster Care and Adoption Policy Services <http://www.dpw.state.nj.gov/Programs/ChildWelfare/003676623.htm>

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Intercountry Adoption

Intercountry adoption is the process by which you adopt a child from a different country than your own.

Through intercountry the legal transfer of parental rights from birth parent(s) to another parent(s) takes place.

Detailed information regarding the intercountry adoption process is available on the following websites:

- [U.S. Department of State/ Intercountry Adoption](http://www.state.gov/e/eb/intercountry/)
- [U.S. Department of Homeland Security/ Citizenship and Immigration Services/ Intercountry Adoptions](http://www.dhs.gov/immigration-services/intercountry-adoption)